

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/SG 03/00294-0

CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC⁷: G01N 21/95, 21/89, 21/88, 21/958

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC⁷: G01N 21/95, 21/958

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

EPODOC, PAJ, WPI

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 4645337 A (R.J. OBENREDER) 24 February 1987 (24.02.1987) <i>abstract; claims; fig. 1.</i>	1,25
A	US 4401893 A (A. DEHUYSSER) 30 August 1983 (30.08.1983) <i>abstract; column 1, line 5 - column 2, line 23; claims; fig. 1,2.</i>	1,25
A	JP 2001 305072 A (ADVANTEST CORP. et al) 31 October 2001 (31.10.2001) (abstract)[online] [retrieved on 11.03.2004] Retrieved from: WPI/PAJ Database <i>abstract.</i>	1,25
A	JP 2000 074848 A (HOYA CORP) 14 March 2000 (14.03.2000) (abstract) [online] [retrieved on 11.03.2004] Retrieved from: WPI/PAJ Database <i>abstract.</i>	1,25

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☒ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

„A“ document defining the general state of the art which is not
considered to be of particular relevance„E“ earlier application or patent but published on or after the international
filing date„L“ document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is
cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other
special reason (as specified)„O“ document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other
means„P“ document published prior to the international filing date but later than
the priority date claimed„T“ later document published after the international filing date or priority
date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand
the principle or theory underlying the invention„X“ document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be
considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step
when the document is taken alone„Y“ document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be
considered to involve an inventive step when the document is
combined with one or more other such documents, such combination
being obvious to a person skilled in the art

„&“ document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

11 March 2004 (11.03.2004)

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3 May 2004 (03.05.2004)

Name and mailing address of the ISA/AT

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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	JP 06 082392 A (NHK SPRING CO LTD) 22 March 1994 (22.03.1994) (abstract) [online] [retrieved on 11.03.2004] Retrieved from: PAJ Database <i>abstract.</i>	1,25

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/SG 03/00294-0

Patent document cited in search report			Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
JP	A	82392A2		none	
JP	A	20000748 48A2		none	
JP	A	20013050 72A2		none	
US	A	4401893	1983-08-30	EP A 0071202	1983-02-09
US	A	4645337	1987-02-24	none	